

improved. Wellhead protection for city/town domestic water supplies could be protected, even enhanced. (5) Tax revenues: Service fee title lands would be removed from county tax rolls resulting in tax revenue losses—could be offset by payments through the Refuge Revenue Sharing Act, and tax shortfall and offset provisions. Prairie tax credit or exemption could place added burden upon local governments. (6) Recreation: Opportunity would exist to balance consumptive and non-consumptive recreational uses—increased recreation would occur. Historical and cultural sites and values would be important prairie values to protect. (7) Other: Approach to acquisition relative to use of condemnation, concern that landowners would not receive just-compensation, and widespread fee purchase and government ownership could be perceived as a loss of local control. Concern of project size and cost to the taxpayer in relation to other priorities. Impact upon other programs and uncertainty as to how the project is to be integrated with other program efforts and lands currently protected.

Other Information

The environmental review of this proposal will be conducted in accordance with the requirements of the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969, as amended (42 U.S.C. 4371 *et seq.*), NEPA regulations (40 CFR 1500–1508), other appropriate Federal regulations, and Service procedures for compliance with those regulations.

We estimate the Draft EIS will be available for public review by summer 1996.

Dated: January 23, 1996.

Marvin E. Moriarty,
Acting Regional Director.

[FR Doc. 96–1872 Filed 1–30–96; 8:45 am]

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Bureau of Land Management

[NM–930–06–1020–00]

Notice of Intent To Develop Standards for Rangeland Health and Guidelines for Grazing Management in New Mexico, Modify Land Use Plans, and Prepare National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) Analysis Pursuant to the Planning Regulations (43 CFR Part 1600)

AGENCY: Bureau of Land Management, Interior.

ACTION: Notice of intent.

SUMMARY: The Bureau of Land Management (BLM) in New Mexico

intends to develop statewide Standards for Rangeland Health and Guidelines for Grazing Management as provided in the BLM's new grazing regulations (43 CFR Part 4100) and modify all existing Land Use Plans (LUP) in the State. The appropriate National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) analysis will be prepared in accordance with the Planning Regulations (43 CFR Part 1600) for the adoption of statewide Standards for Rangeland Health and Guidelines for Grazing Management. This notice invites public input on the development of Standards and Guidelines for New Mexico, on issues to be addressed and on alternatives to be considered in the NEPA analysis.

DATES: Comments will be accepted throughout the process or until further notice. Public comment periods specifically for the plan modification and NEPA process will be provided later.

ADDRESSES: Any comments or requests to be placed on the mailing list should be sent to Rangeland Health Project (93100), Bureau of Land Management, P.O. Box 27155, Santa Fe, NM, 87502.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: J.W. Whitney at (505) 438–7438.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The BLM's new grazing administration regulations (43 CFR Part 4100), which became effective August 21, 1995, provide for the development of state Standards for Rangeland Health and Guidelines for Grazing Management. These Standards and Guidelines are to be approved through BLM planning and NEPA processes. Incorporating Standards and Guidelines into existing plans will require some form of plan modification, ranging from plan maintenance to plan amendment. All LUPs for public lands in the State of New Mexico may be affected. At this point in time, it is undecided what level of plan modification (maintenance or amendment) and NEPA analysis (Environmental Assessment or Environmental Impact Statement) will be needed.

The NEPA analysis will be conducted using an interdisciplinary team of specialists.

Description of Possible Alternatives

At this time three preliminary alternatives have been identified: the continuation of current management as provided for in existing LUPs (no action alternative); the application of fall-back Standards and Guidelines contained in the Grazing Regulations (43 CFR Part 4100); and the adoption of Standards and Guidelines developed locally and in

consultation with New Mexico's Resource Advisory Council.

Anticipated Issues

Anticipated issues to be addressed during the NEPA analysis include, but may not be limited to, the following: the effect that adoption of Standards will have on resource conditions, uses, and users of public land, and the effect that adoption of Guidelines will have on livestock operations.

Dated: January 23, 1996.

Bill Calkins,

State Director.

[FR Doc. 96–1761 Filed 1–30–96; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4310–FB–M

[UT–056–1430–01–24–1A]

Mountain Valley Management Framework Plan; Intent to Amend

AGENCY: Bureau of Land Management, Interior.

ACTION: Notice of intent to amend plan.

SUMMARY: This Notice of Intent is to advise the public that the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) intends to consider a proposal which would require amending an existing planning document.

DATES: The comment period for this proposed plan amendment will commence with publication of this notice. Comments must be submitted within the thirty day period commencing with the publication of this notice.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Dave Henderson, Sevier River Resource Area Manager, 150 East 900 North, Richfield, Utah 84701. Existing planning documents and information are available at the above address or telephone (801) 896–8221. Comments on the proposed plan amendment should be sent to the above address.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The BLM is proposing to amend the Mountain Valley Management Framework Plan which includes public lands in Sanpete County, Utah. The purpose of the amendment would be to identify certain lands as suitable for direct sale pursuant to Section 203 of the Federal Land Policy and Management Act of 1976. The lands identified for direct sale comprise 10.2 acres described as follows: T. 19 S., R. 2 E., Sec. 19, Lot 8, and Section 30, Lots 5 and 8, Salt Lake Meridian, Utah. The existing plan does not identify these lands for disposal. However, because of the resource values, public values, and objectives involved, the public interest may well be served by sale of these